

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m, Old Schoolhouse Common

Present: Selectboard members Laurie Colgan, Chris Martin and Andy Perchlik; Town Clerk Bobbi Brimblecombe; Steve Fiske (Conservation Commission); Jonathan Williams; James Arisman (Constable); Jeff Kantor and Tim Palmer (Hollister Hill Apartments); Greg Breer and son; Will Walters (Hardwick Gazette); Rich Phillips (came in later)

Security: The Selectboard reviewed the operation of the new security cameras

At 6:16 p.m. the meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Martin

Changes or additions to the agenda: Request from Animal Control Officers for equipment, law enforcement issue

Review and Approval of Minutes: Approved the minutes of 3/21, tabled minutes of Town Meeting

Planting projects at the Old Schoolhouse Common: Steve Fiske approached the Selectboard to ask permission to plant trees on the Old Schoolhouse property, to prevent erosion and provide shade on the river. He noted that the nature trail has been eroded away in some areas. The Board noted that some of the planting locations would be on Village land and the Village Trustees would have to give permission, but the Selectboard approved the location that is on town property.

Traffic on Cabot Road: Jonathan Williams lives on the Cabot Road and he believes that people often exceed the speed limit. He noted that the Regional Planning Commission can arrange for a road safety audit by VTrans, at no cost to the town. VTrans would provide a report of what they find with suggestions for ways to improve the safety of the road. He is requesting that the Selectboard contact Regional Planning and ask VTrans to do a road safety audit. Greg Breer stated that the Town needs more enforcement, and Jonathan agrees, and he pointed out that the report would help back up enforcement. He volunteered to do the paperwork. He will draft a letter for the Selectboard.

Law Enforcement Issue: A resident stated that he had law enforcement concerns that he explained to the Selectboard. The resident has contacted various State and area law enforcement officials. He is looking for help because he doesn't know what else to do. Laurie noted that there are 15 – 20 children in the vicinity. James Arisman stated that it sounds like this resident has taken

all of the proper steps to notify law enforcement. Tim Palmer suggested that he contact someone from the US Attorney's Office.

Hollister Hill Apartments: Jeff Kantor noted that the project was awarded the Community Development Block Grant. He wanted to discuss the work that needs to be done. Bobbi raised concerns about spending her time working on the project when there is so much work to be done in the town office; Tim Palmer stated that the project would reimburse the town for her time. Bobbi asked about the reason the property was transferred to the Vermont State Housing Authority in January and transferred back just after April 1st; property tax bills are based on the ownership as of April 1st. Tim Palmer stated that the Housing Foundation would be paying the taxes. There was discussion about how the tax credits work and how the property will be valued for town property taxes in the future. Jeff Kantor spoke about how the property will be a benefit to the town.

Jeff asked the Board to adopt policies required by the grant, including a fair housing policy and an anti-displacement plan. Andy moved to adopt the anti-displacement plan that Jeff presented. Chris seconded – all in favor. The Board tabled review of the other policies and the administrative services contract until the next meeting.

Poundkeeper: The Central Vermont Humane Society notified Bobbi that they cannot enforce our ordinance; they release dogs back to their owners regardless of whether they are vaccinated or licensed. The poundkeeper that we have been using is located in North Danville, so the town would like to find someone closer. Bobbi will contact Cheryl McQueeney to see if she wants to do it.

The Board approved the purchase of some equipment for the dog officers. Bobbi noted that the animal control fund has a balance of approximately \$9,700.

Old Schoolhouse Common: The Board reviewed the location of the cameras and the operation of the new security system. They tabled discussion of the leases.

Generator Grant: Bobbi will contact the State to see if we can use town labor and equipment as our match. Bobbi will notify the DRB that the Town has received a letter of map amendment, certifying that the Old Schoolhouse Common is outside the floodplain.

Dump Truck financing: Chris signed the application to borrow \$75,000 from the State's Municipal Equipment Loan Fund, at 2% interest. This is the best rate – Bobbi has checked with the banks and none could give us a lower rate.

Act 46 Vote: Bobbi notified the Board that there will be a vote in June on the recommendations of the Committee.

Expenses, Permits & Payroll: Selectboard members read and signed reports for General Expenses and Payroll.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bobbi Brimblecombe, Town Clerk

The foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the April 4, 2017 Selectboard Meeting.
A True Record. Attest, _____, Town Clerk
